



Care Review – Anne Rostecki

The review of the care provided was based on a review of Mrs. Rostecki's health record at Seven Oakes Hospital, written and verbal material provided by her daughter, Rozalynde McKibben, verbal information from the physician of record, discussions with nursing leadership at SOGH and discussions with physician leadership at the Region. The review found four areas for improvement:

FINDINGS

1. Engaging the family in decisions about care

The patient's family was very interested in the care being provided and was frequently present at the hospital. The review found that in spite of this presence, there is limited evidence that the health care team regularly engaged the family in setting goals for care or in day to day decisions regarding care.

2. Advance Care Planning

Mrs. Rostecki's Advance Care Plan was completed in the Emergency Department at the time of her admission. The documentation does not provide evidence of discussion with family about their wishes at that time or as her condition changed. The review also found that in spite of the documented ACP level 3, the decisions about care were not always consistent with this plan and there were delays in having the necessary discussions to ensure there was consensus on the plan of care between the family and the health care team.

Nutrition

Findings one and two were contributing factors to delays and inconsistency in decisions regarding oral and tube feeding which resulted in a lack of adequate nutrition for a two week period. There is no evidence of engaging the family in discussions related to feeding, including potential risks and benefits. Once tube feeding was initiated, there is evidence that nursing staff did not consistently follow the care plan, particularly the need to maintain the head of the bed at 30°.

4. Skin and Wound Care

The review found a lack of documentation regarding the plan of care related to basic nursing care. The documentation consists mainly of flow sheets which do not provide evidence of ongoing assessment and interventions based on changes in her condition. Mrs. Rostecki developed skin breakdown prior to her death that could have been prevented with improved attention to turning, positioning, hygiene, skin care and nutrition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Health care teams must actively engage the patient and family in the determining of the goals of care and in developing the plan of care.
2. Advanced Care Planning must be done collaboratively with patients and families and members of the health care team. Recent changes to the WRHA Advanced Care Planning Policy require ongoing discussions with the goal of achieving consensus on the goals of care.
3. Informed decision making regarding oral and tube feedings needs to be improved. The Professional Advisory Committee has approved the development of regional clinical practice guidelines to improve care.
4. Nursing care must focus on pressure ulcer prevention. As of May 1, 2012, all stage 3 and 4 pressure ulcers are reportable critical incidents and trigger an immediate clinical review of the plan of care at the unit level.